

Application No. 10/069,299  
Amendment dated October 31, 2003  
Reply to Office Action of August 4, 2003

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A tire tread, comprising:

100 parts by weight of at least one diene-based elastomer; and

from about 30 to about 160 phr of filler, said filler comprising at least 7 phr of zinc sulfate having a mean particle size of from about 0.5 to about 1.0 microns to modify the viscoelastic properties of said elastomer.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Original) A tire tread as set forth in claim 1 wherein the said filler includes carbon black.

4. (Original) A tire tread as set forth in claim 1 wherein the said filler includes silica.

5. (Original) A tire tread as set forth in claim 1 wherein the aggregate amount of zinc sulfate in said filler is less than about 30 percent of the volume of said filler.

6. (Original) A tire tread as set forth in claim 1 wherein the aggregate amount of zinc sulfate is between 10 and about 30 percent by weight of said filler.

7. (Previously presented) A tire tread, comprising:

100 parts by weight of at least one diene-based elastomer; and

from about 30 to about 160 phr of filler, said filler comprising at least about 7 phr

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of barium sulfate, wherein the aggregate amount of barium sulfate in said filler is less than about 30 percent of the volume of said filler and the aggregate amount of barium sulfate is between about 10 and about 30 percent by weight of said filler, and wherein the mean particle size of said barium sulfate is between about 1.0 and about 2.0 microns to modify the viscoelastic properties of said elastomer.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Original) A tire tread as set forth in claim 7 wherein the said filler includes carbon black.

10. (Original) A tire tread as set forth in claim 7 wherein the said filler includes silica.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously presented) A tire tread, comprising:

100 parts by weight of at least one diene-based elastomer; and

from about 30 to about 160 phr of filler, said filler comprising at least about 8 phr of titanium dioxide, the mean particle size of said titanium dioxide being between about 0.5 and about 1.0 microns, and wherein the aggregate amount of titanium dioxide in said filler is less than about 30 percent of the volume of said filler and the aggregate amount of titanium dioxide is between 10 and about 30 percent by weight of said filler to modify the viscoelastic properties of said elastomer.

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15. (Cancelled)

16. (Original) A tire tread as set forth in claim 14 wherein the said filler includes carbon black.

17. (Original) A tire tread as set forth in claim 14 wherein the said filler includes silica.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)